

Message Text

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S E C R E T STATE 171496

NODIS
FOR DEPUTY SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER FROM BRIZILL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (CHRISTOPHER, WARREN), PFOR

SUBJECT:CABLE HIGHLIGHTS - JULY 21, 1977

1. TRANSMITTED FOR YOUR INFORMATION ARE CABLE HIGHLIGHTS
FOR JULY 21.

2. AID TO CHAD: VIEW FROM ELYSEE. ELYSEE AFRICAN AFFAIRS
ADVISOR JOURNIAC WELCOMES BILATERAL COOPERATION WITH THE US
ON MILITARY AID TO CHAD. THE FRENCH BELIEVE QADHAFI IS
SUSCEPTIBLE TO DIPLOMATIC PRESSURE AND THAT CONVENING THE
OAU COMMITTEE ON CHAD WOULD BE THE MOST EFFECTIVE MEANS TO
APPLY IT.

3. AID TO SOMALIA: VIEW FROM ELYSEE. ELYSEE ADVISOR
JOURNIAC AGREES THAT THE WEST SHOULD FACILITATE SOMALIA'S
MOVE AWAY FROM THE SOVIETS, BUT SUGGESTS CAUTION UNTIL RE-
PORTED MASSIVE SOVIET WITHDRAWALS ARE CONFIRMED. NOTING
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THAT MOGADISCIO'S LEADERS HAIL MOSTLY FROM THE OGADEN,
JOURNIAC FORESEES CONTINUING SOMALI PREOCCUPATION WITH
THE AREA.

4. PRESS ALLEGATIONS OF US MILITARY SUPPORT TO SOMALIA.
ETHIOPIAN PRESS ACCOUNTS OF JULY 21 CHARGE THAT SOMALI
SOLDIERS KILLED OR CAPTURED IN THE OGADEN WERE CARRYING

AMERICAN WEAPONS. CHARGE TIENKEN WOULD LIKE TO DENY THE ALLEGATION, BUT FEARS SUCH A DENIAL WOULD COME BACK TO HAUNT US ONCE OUR DECISION TO PROVIDE MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA BECOMES KNOWN.

5. INITIAL EGYPTIAN REACTION TO BEGIN VISIT. THE EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT HAS THUS FAR REFRAINED FROM OFFICIALLY COMMENTING ON THE CARTER-BEGIN TALKS. CAIRO UNDERSTANDS THAT WASHINGTON WANTS TO ENSURE THE PUBLIC CORDIALITY OF ITS TALKS WITH ISRAEL, BUT THE EGYPTIANS WILL SOON NEED PUBLIC ASSURANCE THAT THE US IS NOT RETREATING FROM THE "ENCOURAGING" POSITION IT HAS TAKEN.

6. LIBYAN COUP PLOT. GENERAL MAKHLUF, EGYPT'S MILITARY PROSECUTOR GENERAL, ANNOUNCED JULY 20 THAT HE HAS EVIDENCE THAT LIBYA PLANNED THE TAKFIR CAMPAIGN TO OVERTHROW THE SADAT GOVERNMENT. THIS ACCUSATION SETS THE STAGE FOR EGYPTIAN REPRISALS AGAINST LIBYA AND PRESUMABLY IS LINKED TO THE NEWEST OUTBREAK OF FIGHTING ALONG THE BORDER.

7. ZAMBIA APPROACH TOWARD SWAPO. IN A MEETING WITH CHARGE CLINGERMAN, PRESIDENTIAL ADVISOR CHONA SAID NEITHER HE NOR PRESIDENT KAUNDA WERE PREPARED TO URGE SWAPO TO UNDERTAKE DISCUSSIONS WITH SOUTH AFRICA IN THE SPIRIT OF COMPROMISE.

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8. EGYPT WANTS US IN THE ILO. EGYPTIAN OFFICIALS INCLUDING FOREIGN MINISTER FAHMY HAVE OFFERED TO ASSISTANT SECRETARY MAYNES TO HELP MOBILIZE SPECIAL EFFORTS BY THE G-77 COUNTRIES WHICH MIGHT ENABLE THE US TO REMAIN IN THE ILO AND RETAIN ITS CREDIBILITY.

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